

BEFORE THE
Federal Communications Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
JUL 30 1993
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
)
Replacement of Part 90 by)
Part 88 to Revise the Private)
Land Mobile Radio Services and)
Modify the Policies Governing)
Them)
_____)

PR Docket No. 92-235

To: The Commission

REPLY COMMENTS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL MUNICIPAL SIGNAL ASSOCIATION,
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC. AND
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE EMERGENCY
MEDICAL SERVICE DIRECTORS

The International Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc., the International Municipal Signal Association and the National Association of State Emergency Medical Service Directors (hereinafter "IAFC/IMSA/NASEMSD"), by their attorneys, hereby submit these Reply Comments responsive to the Comments filed in response to the Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the above-captioned proceeding.^{1/}

1/ 7 FCC Rcd 8105 (1992).

No. of Copies rec'd
List A B C D E

0+4

I.

INTRODUCTION

The majority of the Commenters in this proceeding are in agreement with IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD and support the concept of refarming the spectrum below 512 MHz. IAFC/IMSA/NASEMSD recognize that the spectrum below 512 MHz is highly congested, while the demand for such spectrum for use by private land mobile radios is continually increasing. Like the other public safety entities commenting in this proceeding, IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD seek to ensure that the Commission's refarming proposal is flexible enough to satisfy the unique needs of public safety users, while still meeting the Commission's goals of spectrum efficiency. Therefore, IAFC/IMSA/NASEMSD respond to the Comments submitted as follows.

II. PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATION

A. The Public Safety Entities Support the Retention of Discrete Services.

The other Public Safety entities commenting in this proceeding uniformly are in support of retaining discrete frequency pools for Public Safety services and allowing these services to maintain their current frequency

assignments.^{2/} The proposals advanced by PSCC and
IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD would introduce a hybrid pooling concept
whereby newly created channels existing between like public
safety frequencies would be assigned to that specific

that if the Commission does decide to consolidate the services as proposed, it designate only one frequency coordinator for the consolidated pool. APCO at 35-36. APCO's bases its concerns on its conclusion that use of multiple coordinators in a consolidated pool would cause significant delays in interservice coordination. See APCO

those services using this contractor have the benefits of a common database -- processing times are minimal, and information can be exchanged via the database network. APCO, however, stopped using this contractor several years ago and decided instead to coordinate its frequencies in-house. Nonetheless, APCO could, if it so desired, access the contractor's database to obtain and exchange information.

TYPE / TIME / NUMBER 1-31-66 4:15 PM 1-31-66 4:15 PM

Council, a frequency management plan for the pooled channels. The intent behind this proposal is to facilitate the most efficient use of the pooled channels while maintaining an open coordination process. Thus, permitting multiple coordinators to provide service in the general pool provides an opportunity to test the pooling concept in a controlled environment.

B. The Commission Should Adopt a Flexible Approach to Migration and ERP/HAAT Limits.

The majority of the commenters also join IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD in supporting the Land Mobile Communications Council's (LMCC) alternate migration plans, and urge the Commission to extend the proposed transition schedule for UHF and VHF frequencies, moving towards 6.25 kHz bandwidth only after the transition to 12.5 kHz has been fully evaluated. APCO at 14-22; PSCC at 2-3; FCCA at 2; IMSA/IAFC at 507. Like other Public Safety entities commenting, IAFC/IMSA/NASEMSD support the migration plan for the UHF band put forth by the LMCC, and the LMCC's Option A for the VHF band. APCO at 14 and 21; PSCC at 2; IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD at 5-6. As demonstrated by the Public Safety commenters, licensees in these services increasingly require additional spectrum to meet the demands of responding to emergency situations. See APCO at 4; PSCC at

5-6; IMSA;IAFC/NASEMSD at 8-10. This increasing demand, however, is limited by the fact that public safety licensees are subject to the budgetary constraints of their political jurisdictions. So while these licensees are facing ever growing demands for spectrum to handle a variety of emergency situations over a wide-spread area, they must confront significant financial constraints in terms of constructing or expanding their systems.

Additionally, IMSA/IAFC/NASEMSD urge the Commission to follow the recommendations of the LMCC, as also endorsed by APCO, FCCA and PSCC, for determining effective radiated power and antenna height above average terrain. See APCO at 29-32; FCCA at 2; PSCC at 2; IAFC/IMSA/NASEMSD at 5-7. The proposed Table provides users with a flexible approach to ERP/HAAT limits which takes into consideration the varying needs of licensees.

II.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, Inc., the International Municipal Signal Association and the National Association of State Emergency Medical Service Directors respectfully request that the Federal Communications Commission modify its proposal to accommodate the distinct needs of the Public Safety licensees consistent with the recommendations

contained in their initial comments and as set forth with
herein.

Respectfully submitted,



Martin W. Bercovici
Carol Moors Toth
KELLER AND HECKMAN
1001 G Street, N.W.
Suite 500 West
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 434-4100

Attorneys for
The International Municipal
Signal Association,
The International Association of
Fire Chiefs, Inc., and
The National Association of
State Emergency Medical
Service Directors

Due: July 30, 1993